Every Child is a Learner

Throughout the semester, we have utilized many different strategies to help ELL students gain knowledge and comprehend material, both in and out of the classroom. These strategies include everything from vocabulary and reading practice, to cooperative grouping and individual practice. Indeed, the ELL student poses a unique challenge for any teacher, but it is important to remember that an ELL student is simply a student.

A teacher is challenged daily to vary instruction and differentiate material in order to meet the needs of all students in the classroom. I feel that the most good comes from remembering that each child is an individual. Each child comes to the classroom with different experiences, life skills, and personal schema. As a teacher, it is imperative that I recognize these differences and appreciate what each student has to offer in the classroom.

It is true that children need to develop curricular skills, but teaching does not stop there! Children also need to learn self worth and personal integrity. The techniques and strategies I learned throughout the semester give me some of the tools I need to help ELL students, all students, gain the confidence and skills they need to succeed in the classroom and in life.